

Michel Chambon 陈立邦

Curriculum Vitae

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(Feb. 2025)

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Research Fellow	from 2021
Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore	
Founding coordinator of ISAC: <i>Initiative for the Study of Asian Catholics</i> , www.isac-research.org	
Visiting Assistant Professor in Anthropology	2018 - 2020
Hanover College	
Visiting Researcher, Center for the Study of Religion and Society	2017
University of Notre Dame	

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Anthropology , Boston University, USA	2018
Dissertation: "Materiality and Christianity in Nanping, Making God Present"	
Canonical Licentiate in Theology with honors	2011
Catholic University of Paris, France	
Thesis: "The <i>Chinese Gui (Ghosts) within the Catholic Faith</i> "	
Canonical Baccalauréat in Theology, Catholic University of Paris	2008
Diplôme Universitaire de Technologie in Biological and Biochemical Analysis	2001
University of Auvergne, France	

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Fundraising in Singapore for ISAC	2024
Grant from a European Foundation to ISAC	2023
Paris-NUS Research Collaboration	2023
American Academy of Religion Research Grant (5,000 USD)	2020
Global Religion Research Initiative Dissertation Fellowship, University of Notre Dame	2017
Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship, Boston University	2015
Confucius China Studies Program Research Fellowship	2015
Association for Asian Studies China and Inner Asia Council Small Grant	2014
Dean's Fellowship, Boston University	2012
Ecole Française d'Extrême Orient (E.F.E.O.) Research Grant	2010
Catholic University of Paris Tuition Scholarship	2008

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Anthropology of Christianity, Material Anthropology, Chinese Christianities, World Catholicism, Chinese Religions, Theology of Religion

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs:

Chambon de Clermont, Michel. 2025. *Les chrétiens dans la Chine de Xi Jinping*. Paris: Le Cerf.

Chambon, Michel. 2020. *Making Christ Present in China, Actor-Network Theory and the Anthropology of Christianity*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

Edited Books:

Chambon, Michel, Paul Hedges, & Luca Farrow (Ed.). *Asian Interreligious Diplomacies: Catholic & Other Perspectives* (ISEAS Publishing, under contract).

Chambon, Michel & James Ponniah (Ed.). *Asian Catholicism and the Remaking of Contemporary Families* (University of Pittsburgh Press, under contract).

Articles:

Chambon, Michel. 2025. "Dancing before Christ and Chinese Citizens: Protestant Calisthenics and Religious Space in Contemporary China." *Religion and Society* 15 (1).

Chambon, Michel, Bubbles Beverly Asor, and Renchillina Joy G. Supan. 2025. "Lateral Synodality: Academics of Asian Catholicism and Organizational Change" *Religions* 16, no. 3: 283.

Chambon, Michel. 2024. "Mary and the Origin of the Self: A new Chinese Religious Movement and Christianity." *Maria: A Journal of Marian Studies* 4 (2): 1-13.

Chambon, Michel. 2024. "The Missionary and the Pea, An Anthropological Study of the French MEP Economy." *Journal of Global Catholicism* 8 (2): 102-133.

Chambon, Michel. 2022. "Remaking the Church Catholic in Post-Maoist China: The Outward Movement of Chinese Catholics and Their Collaborations with the Paris Foreign Missions." *Mission Studies* 39: 373-396

Chambon, Michel. 2022. "Quelle réception catholique des courants évangéliques en Asie ? Regard d'Asie." *Lumen Vitae* 77(4):413-415

Chambon, Michel. 2022. "How Do Chinese Christians Draw Boundaries among Themselves? Reassessing the Question of Chinese Christianities." *Religions* 13: 258.

Chambon, Michel. 2019. "Chinese Catholic Nuns and the Organization of Religious Life in Contemporary China" *Religions* 10: 447.

Chambon, Michel. 2018. "Produire et Consommer le Sang du Christ en Chine Contemporaine" *Études Chinoises* 37 (2): 61-82

- Chambon, Michel. 2017. "The Action of Christian Buildings upon their Chinese Environment" *Studies in World Christianity* 23(2): 100-121.
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. "Les Catholiques Alternatifs de Guangzhou : Enjeux Educatifs" *Leuven Chinese Studies* 37: 107-124.
- Chambon, Michel. 2012. "The Chinese Gui 鬼 within the Catholic Faith - A Case Study on the Catholics in Taipei" *New Century Religious Studies* 新世紀宗教研究 11(1): 185-95.

Book chapters:

- Chambon, Michel (forthcoming). "African Flesh and Catholic Evangelisation in China: Investigating the Roles of African Catholics in the Making of Chinese Catholicism", in *Overcoming Xenophobia and Exclusion? African Christianities in Diaspora*, Swart, Ignatius, Henrietta Nyamnjoh & Elina Hankela (eds.), Stellenbosch: African Sun Media/UWC Press.
- Chambon, Michel. 2024. "Chinese Christians and the Post-Maoist Politics", in *Christian Minorities and Transforming States, Mapping Varied Christian Experiences and Responses*. D. Singh, Minneapolis: Fortress Press. pp.35-52
- Chambon, Michel. 2023. "Chinese Nuns and Their Theology of Ministry" In *Modern Chinese Theologies, Vol. 1: Heritage and Prospect*. C. Starr. Mineapolis: Fortress Press.
- Chambon, Michel. 2019. "Sciences sociales et christianisme en Chine. Une brève introduction" pp.31-50 in *Trajectoires missionnaires en Asie orientale*, P. Servais and A. Join-Lambert, Collection « Religio ». Louvain-La-Neuve: Presses Universitaires de Louvain.
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. "Are Chinese Christians Pentecostal? A Catholic Reading of Pentecostal Influence on Chinese Christians" pp.181-199 in *Global Chinese Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity*, F. Yang, J. K.C. Tong and A. H. Anderson, eds. Leiden: Brill.
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. "Les Dieux Catholiques à la Rencontre des Fantômes Chinois" pp.113-124 in *Fantômes dans l'Extrême-Orient d'Hier et d'Aujourd'hui*. M. Laureillard and V. Durand-Dastès, eds. Paris: Presses de l'INALCO.
- Chambon, Michel. 2014. "Les Chrétiens Chinois entre Répression et Ouvertures" pp.592-602 in *Le Livre noir de la condition des chrétiens dans le monde*. J-M Di Falco, T. Radcliffe, A. Riccardi (Dir). Paris: XOEditions.
- Chambon, Michel. 2012. "Les Fêtes Chinoises Aujourd'hui" pp.925-950 in *Rites, fêtes et célébrations de l'humanité*. T.-M. Courau and H. De la Hougue (Dir.) Montrouge: Bayard.

Book Reviews:

- Chambon, Michel. 2024. "Asian Pacific Catholicism and Globalization: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Challenges" By Jose Casanova and Peter Phan, *Review of Religious Research* 66 (4).
- Chambon, Michel. 2024. "Christianity and the Chinese in Indonesia" by Chang Yau Hoon, *IJAC* 7 (2): 325-326.
- Chambon, Michel. 2024. Review of "Uneasy Encounters: Christian Churches in Greater China" by Rychetska Magdaléna, *IJAC* 7 (1):141-143.
- Chambon, Michel. 2023. Review of "Missionary Education. Historical Approaches and Global Perspectives" by Christiaens Kim, Idesbald Godeeris, and Pieter Verstraete (Ed.) *Archives des Sciences Sociales des Religions* 4 (204):179-180
- Chambon, Michel. 2021. Review of "People, Communities, and the Catholic Church in China" by Chu, Cindy Yik-yi, and Mariani, Paul P. (Ed.) *Archives des Sciences Sociales des Religions* 192: 172-175.
- Chambon, Michel. 2020. Review of "China in Life's Foreground" by Audrey G. Donnithorne. *Missiology: An International Review*. 48(4): 422–426.
- Chambon, Michel. 2020. Review of "Catholic Missionaries in Early Modern Asia Patterns of Localization" by Nadine Amsler et al. (ed.) *EuropeNow*.
- Chambon, Michel. 2019. Review of "Protestantism in Xiamen, Then and Now" by Chris White (ed.). *Archives des Sciences Sociales des Religions* 188: 426-42.
- Chambon, Michel. 2018. Review of "Vincent Lebbe et son héritage" by Arnaud Join-Lambert et al. *Revue Histoire Ecclésiastique* (3-4): 353-353.
- Chambon, Michel. 2017. Review of "Les Chrétiens de Chine, Affiliations et conversions au XXI^e siècle" by Pierre Vendassi. *Social Sciences and Missions*, 30(1-2): 212-214.

Selected Media Contributions:

- In Sept. 2024, numerous interviews regarding the Pope's visit to Asia Pacific, which included secular media (AFP, CNN, BBC, Le Monde, CNA, Staats Times, etc.) and Catholic media (UCANews, NCR, La Croix, etc.)
- The Diplomat (English):
 - Chambon, Michel "France, the Vatican, and the Pan-Asian Sexual Abuse Scandals of MEP Missionaries", 21 Feb. 2024.
 - Chambon, Michel "The Vatican's Diplomacy in Central Asia", 3 Oct. 2022.
 - Chambon, Michel and Bernardo Brown "Catholicism's Overlooked Importance in Asia", 4 Feb. 2022.
- La Civiltà Cattolica (Italian and English):
 - Chambon, Michel and Antonio Spadaro, s.j. "African Influence upon Chinese Catholicism" 2020, 3: 270-280.
 - Chambon, Michel and Antonio Spadaro, s.j. "Urban Catholicism in China" 2019, 3(1): 26-38.
 - Chambon, Michel and Thierry Meynard, s.j. "Aggiornamento of the Chinese Catholic Church" 2018, 3 (18): 93-101.
- National Catholic Reporter (English)

Chambon Michel "In Asia, the Virgin Mary Transcends Religious Boundaries"
8 May 2023.

- Eglise d'Asie (French):
Chambon, Michel. "Comprendre ce qui se cache derrière le modèle des protestants de Wenzhou" June 16, 2016.
Chambon, Michel. "Semaine de prière pour l'unité des chrétiens : quel panorama œcuménique en Chine?" January 12, 2016.
- UCANews/ Lacroix International (English and Chinese)
<https://www.ucanews.org/category/author/michel-chambon>
Chambon, Michel. "Holy Week and the worldly path of the Sino-Vatican agreement", Apr. 5, 2024.
Chambon Michel. "Beijing, Holy See test Sino-Vatican deal" November 28, 2022.
Chambon, Michel. "The Holy See, China and the Question of Sovereignty" February 22, 2018.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Visiting Assistant Professor in Anthropology at Hanover College 2018-2020
Teaching: ANTH 162 *World Cultures and Societies*; ANTH 260 *War and Asian Societies*; ANTH 325 *Methods in Anthropology*; ANTH 334 *International Development*; ANTH 461 *Senior Seminar – Anthropology of Christianity as a World Religion*
- Three-day training for the scholastics of the Jesuit China Province:
"Chinese Christianities and Social Sciences", Fujen University, Taipei Feb. 2018
- Teaching Fellow at Boston University 2013-2017
Taught five semesters (including 2 semesters as a head-TF) under 3 different faculty members AN 101 *Introduction to Anthropology*
- Teacher at St Joseph Anglo-Chinese High School, Hong Kong 2005-2006
Taught (in Cantonese) an introductory class on European and French Cultures.
- Religious teacher in various settings (Sunday School, Young Adult programs, Wedding preparation)

ACADEMIC EVENTS

Conferences & Workshops Organized:

2025, Jan. 8-9: *Framing Migration: The Role of Religious Actors in the Production of International Law*, Asia Research Institute, Singapore.

2024, Dec. 12-15: *The Pan Asian Heritage of St Francis-Xavier*, co-organized with Xavier's College, Goa – India.

2024, Aug. 29-30: *The Vatican and Interreligious Diplomacy in Asia*, co-organized with RSIS Singapore.

2024, Feb. 29 -March 1: *Gender and Emotion in Asia-Pacific Catholicisms*, co-organized with Linda Zampol D'Ortia, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, online.

2023, Aug. 31-31: *Asian Catholic Materialities*, Asia Research Institute, Singapore.

- 2023, Aug.17&-18 & 22-23: *Global China in a Religious World*, co-organized with Prof. David Palmer, Hong Kong University and Asia Research Institute, Hong Kong.
- 2023, May 10-12: *More Universal than Catholicism? Mary Among Asian Religions*, co-organized with the Center for Marian Studies, St Mary's University, Twickenham, online.
- 2022, Feb. 10-11: *Catholicism, Family and Asian Societies*, Asia Research Institute, online.

Papers presented:

- 2025, Jan. 21-22: Paper "Essence and Presence in Chinese Christianity" Workshop on Experiencing Essence in Chinese Religions, London School of Economics (UK)
- 2024, Nov. 29-30: Paper "Chinese Catholics Beyond China, Sino-Catholic Hybridities and Intercultural Dialogue" Hong Kong Forum on Interfaith Dialogue and Integration of Religions into Chinese Society (Hong Kong, China)
- 2024, Nov. 07-09: Paper "The Virgin Mary in Korean Context: Between Buddhist Universalism and Hanbok Particularism" Conference on Korean Studies of the Kyujanggak Institute, Seoul National University (Seoul, South Korea)
- 2024, August 1: Paper "*Catholicism and Interreligious realities in Southeast China*", US-China Catholic Association Conference (Chicago, USA)
- 2024, July 8-11: Paper "*The materialization of Catholicism within the Taiwanese domestic sphere*" AAS-in-Asia (Yogyakarta, Indonesia)
- 2024, June 26-29: Paper "*Renaitre en Asie Chrétienne*" at the workshop 'Le Sens Des Mots', (Paris, France)
- 2024, March 1: Paper "*Zen's Anger: Geopolitical use of a Cardinal Emotion*" in "Gender and Emotion in Asia-Pacific Catholicism," ISAC (Online)
- 2023, June 24-27: Paper "*Displaying Mary in Singapore and Negotiating Catholic Unity and Diversity*", AAS-in-Asia (Daegu, South Korea)
- 2023, May 10-12: Paper "Mary and the Origin of the Self Singapore" at the workshop "More Universal than Catholicism? Mary Among Asian Religions," ISAC (Online)
- 2022, November 19-23: Paper "*Local autonomy and global sovereignty: the political entanglements of Chinese Catholics*", American Academy of Religion (Denver, USA)
- 2022, November 8-11 : Paper "*Local autonomy and global sovereignty: the political entanglements of Chinese Catholics*", American Anthropological Association (Seattle USA)
- 2022, March 25-26: Paper "*Les Catholicismes en Asie : mythes socio-historiques et enjeux théologiques*" at the workshop "La sinisation du catholicisme après Vincent Lebbe : continuités, ruptures et défis" Fujen University (Taipei, Taiwan)
- 2022, March 24-27: Roundtable organizer "Studying Asian Catholics" at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference (Online)

- 2021, Nov. 17-21: Paper “The Trans-local Economy of the Société des Missions Etrangères de Paris” (and panel organizer) at the American Anthropological Association 2021 Annual Meeting (Online).
- 2021, Nov. 20-23: Paper “Catholic News Agencies Focusing on Asia” (and panel organizer) at the American Academy of Religion Annual Conference (Online).
- 2021, Nov. 15-16: Paper “Discussing Lived Catholicism in China, An Urgent Need for the World Church” at the Lived Catholicism conference, Durham University (Online)
- 2021, Sept. 22: Paper “The MEP in Thailand: current presence and significance”, at the Jacques de Morgan Research Seminar Series – Translocal Mobilities: the French Asian Connection, National University of Malaysia (Online)
- 2021, March 3-5: Paper “Catholic News Agencies and 21st Century Asia”, at the workshop Transnational Religious Networks: Alternative Articulations and Methodologies, Asia Research Institute, Nationale University of Singapore (Singapore)
- 2021, Jan.25-26: Paper “Chinese Protestant Calisthenics and Women Producing Religious Space”, at the workshop Urban Religion, Gender and the Body, Asia Research Institute, Nationale University of Singapore (Singapore)
- 2020, Nov.29-Dec. 10: Paper “Spring Couplets & the Materialization of Chinese Christianity”, at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (Online)
- 2020, Jun. 1-3: Paper “Chinese Catholic Nuns and Their Theology of Ministry”, at the Yale Divinity School Conference on Chinese Theology, New Haven (Online)
- 2018, Nov. 17-20: Paper “Chinese Christians in Nanping City: Five Denominations, One Ecumenism”, at the American Academy of Religion Annual Conference (Denver, USA)
- 2018, Nov. 8-10: Paper “L'Esprit du Christ dans la société chinoise contemporaine: les formes du pentecôtisme en Chine post-maoïste”, at the XL Convegno di Studi Religiosi, Villa Cagnola Gazzada (Minalo, Italy)
- 2018, July 3-5: Paper “The Chinese Christmas War, Louis Dumont and the Remaking of Chinese Religiosity”, at the East Asian Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Conference (Singapore)
- 2018, June 15-16: Paper “Producing and Consuming The Blood of Christ in Contemporary China”, at French Association for Chinese Studies Workshop (Paris, France)
- 2018, March 22-25: Paper “A Protestant Thanksgiving in China” at the Association for Asian Studies annual conference (Washington D.C. USA)
- 2017, Sept 2: Paper “État de la Recherche sur le Christianisme Contemporain en Chine” at Les missions d’Asie Orientale : nouvelles orientations de recherche, Université Catholique de Louvain (Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium)
- 2017, May 5-6: Paper “The Action of Christian Churches within Chine Environment Today” at Converting Spaces, Redirecting Missions Through Global Encounters, University of California (Santa Barbara, USA)
- 2017, Jan.28-29: Panel organizer of “Facing Aging in Contemporary China”, and paper “Chinese Protestantism and Elderly People: Opening Nursing Homes to Become a

- Chinese Religion” at the New England Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference (Boston, USA).
- 2016, Nov. 18-21: Paper “Chinese Christians Negotiating Religious Value of Space in China Today” at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (San Diego, USA)
- 2016, Jun. 20-21 : Paper “Les catholiques 'alternatifs' de Canton : quels enjeux éducatifs pour quelle formation humaine ?” at the Verbiest Forum (Leuven, Belgium)
- 2014, July 2-4: Paper “Recent evolutions of Chinese Christian churches: The emergence of a distinct Chinese Protestantism” at the New European Research on Contemporary China Conference (Beijing, China)
- 2013, Oct. 30-31: Paper “Is Chinese Protestantism Pentecostal? Some issues of Healing among Chinese Christians” at the Global ReOrient: Chinese Pentecostal/Charismatic Movements in the Global East (Purdue University, USA)
- 2013, Oct. 25-26: Paper “The Labeling of Chinese Christianity: How do we Know?” at Ways of Knowing Graduate Conference on Religion (Harvard Divinity School, USA)
- 2013, Feb. 21-23 : Paper “Les Dieux Chrétiens à la Rencontre des Fantômes Chinois” at the conference « Aesthetics of Phantasmagoria » INALCO Institut d’Asie Orientale (Paris France)

INVITED TALKS

- 2024, Nov. 29-30: Paper: “Chinese Catholics Beyond China, Sino-Catholic Hybridities and Intercultural Dialogue”, Hong Kong Forum on Interfaith Dialogue and Integration of Religions into Chinese Society (Hong Kong, China).
- 2024, Sept. 28: Two Lectures “Crossways of Catholic Art” at Temenggong Artists-in-Residence, Singapore.
- 2024, Jan. 24: Panel Discussion “Christian Studies in Asia: Taiwan, China, Timor. Theoretical & Methodological Issues” at the CEFC, Academia Sinica, Taiwan.
- 2023, Sept. 29: Talk: “Responding to Pew Research Center’s New Report on Religion in South and Southeast Asia” at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
- 2022, March 6 : Talk “Chinese Catholic Nuns and their Theology of Ministry” at the ISHWRA Seminar, Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University.
- 2021, March 26: Talk “Etudier les Chrétiens en Chine Méthodologies et Enjeux”, IFRAE-INALCO.
- 2021, March 3rd: Talk “Studying Chinese Christian Networks and Questioning Approaches to Religion”, Sussex Asia Centre Seminars, University of Sussex
- 2021, Feb. 23th: Talk “Researching Christianity in Contemporary China”, Pr. Wu keeping Class, Duke-Kunshan University, Suzhou
- 2019, April 8th: Talk “The Bloody Business of Christian Conversion In China: Materiality and Religious Change”, Center on Religion and Chinese Society, Purdue University

- 2018, April 26th: Roundtable “The Church and China in the Age of Francis: A Panel Discussion” organized by the Liu Institute, University of Notre Dame
- 2018, April 24th: Talk “The Chinese Rites Controversy, 1635-1746”, at Calvin College
- 2018, Feb. 12th: Presentation of research at the CEFC seminar, Academia Sinica, “Chinese Protestants and their 10,000 objects: Reconsidering the Study of Protestantism in Contemporary China”, Taipei
- 2017, June 1st: Talk “Les Protestants dans le Christianisme Chinois Aujourd’hui” at Centre Sèvres – Institut Ricci, Paris
- 2017, May 15th: Presentation of research at the seminar “Histoire du taoïsme et des religions chinoises” Vincent Goossaert, EPHE, Paris

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021-20--: Institution building, academic outreach, and scientific leadership of ISAC (Initiative for the Study of Asian Catholics - www.isac-research.org)
- 2017-20--: Ongoing research on “The Expansion of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta across the Asia-Pacific Region”
- 2023-2024: Ongoing research on “The Materialization of Chinese Catholicism within the Domestic Sphere”
- 2018-2020: Ongoing research on “Spring Couplets and the Domestic Materialization of Chinese Christianity”
- 2014-2018: Research and Interviews of Chinese Catholic nuns living in China, Europe and the USA
- 2015-2016: 14-month-ethnographic fieldwork among Christian Churches in Nanping City and in Guangzhou, China
- 2010-2012: Contribution to a research project led by Vincent Goossaert and Fang Ling (CNRS): “The religious life of the Chinese diaspora in France”
- 2009-2011: 16 months of language study and ethnographic research in Taiwan
- 2001: 4-month internship at Environment Canada in Montreal, Canada

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2023-: Editorial Board Member, Book Series: Contemporary Asian Catholics, University of Pittsburgh Press.
- 2023-: Reviewer for *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.
- 2022-: Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Global Catholicism*.
- 2021-: Reviewer for *Review of Religion and Chinese Societies*, and *Religions*.
- 2020-: Reviewer for *American Anthropologist*, and *Brill*.
- 2019-: Reviewer for *Journal of Contemporary China*, and *American Ethnologist*.

ECCLESIAL EXPERIENCE

2015-2016: Doctoral research within a mainline Protestant Church in Nanping City, China, with observations of interactions and relationships with four additional local Churches

2001-2008: Seminarian for the Catholic archdiocese of Clermont, France

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

2008-2012: Trainer on cultural encounter and diversity, and orientation adviser for the French association Délégation Catholique pour la Coopération (DCC), a humanitarian agency of the French Bishops Conference promoting development and international volunteering. website: www.ladcc.org

1998-2008: Animator and/or project organizer of activities with mentally disabled people in various settings

LINGUISTIC SKILLS

French (mother tongue); English (advanced capacity in speaking, reading and writing);

Mandarin (advanced capacity in speaking and reading); Cantonese (proficiency in speaking);

Italian (competent)

INTERESTS

Gardening; drawing

MISCELLANEOUS

Academic Portfolio: <https://michelchambon.com/>

Received Ministries of Lector and Acolyte, May 2008, Paris

Personal blog: <https://michelchambon.blogspot.com/>